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Saugus Man Found Guilty of Girlfriend's Murder

A 43-year-old Saugus man with a history of domestic violence was found guilty today of the murder of his girlfriend, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

The jury deliberated for about two hours before finding Eric Allen Earle (dob 5/27/71) guilty of killing his 31-year-old girlfriend, two days before her birthday.

Sentencing for case PAO72411 has been scheduled for Oct. 27 in Department N of the Los Angeles County Superior Court, San Fernando Branch.

Earle faces a maximum sentence of 25 years to life in state prison.

On Sept. 1, 2011, the victim was found dead inside her condo, which she shared with Earle. Evidence presented at trial showed she was asphyxiated after being beaten by the defendant during a violent argument.

Earle had assaulted the victim on prior occasions and had also beaten his ex-wife, according to trial testimony.

The assigned prosecutor is Deputy District Attorney Elena Abramson.

The case was investigated by the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department.

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About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to seeking justice for victims of crime and enhancing public safety. Last year, the <u>Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office</u> prosecuted more than 73,000 felony defendants and 113,000 misdemeanor defendants.